OIPE
JUL 30 2003
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kenichi KURATA, *et al.*

Appln. No.: 09/764,103

Confirmation No.: 4519

Filed: January 19, 2001

Docket No: Q62224

Group Art Unit: 2153

Examiner: NOT YET ASSIGNED

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AUG 05 2003
GROUP 3600

For: AN IMAGE-FORMING SYSTEM EMPLOYING A CARTRIDGE AND PROVIDING A BENEFIT TO A USER

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JUL 31 2003
Technology Center 2100

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: July 30, 2003

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2153 #6 BS

8-11-03

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

PERMIT AUG 11 2003

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under

37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. Nevertheless, since a Statement can be made, a Statement is submitted herewith.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

The submission of English abstracts along with Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication Nos. H08-305911, H07-175370, H11-203087, H11-342623, H11-073576, and H11-327828 constitutes a concise explanation of relevance of the references.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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